

"Indian Script Code" for Information Interchange (ISCII) which can be used for computers and teleprinters. These codes address the requirements of the officially recognised Indian Languages apart from English. The draft specification has been circulated to concerned authorities for their technical observations before it is finalised.

(d) Replacement of the machines are not envisaged for introducing the Standard Code. In Personal Computers, Codes for Bilingual Data Processing can be implemented using specially designed hardware and software which are already available.

Scientific and Technical Manpower Utilisation

*685. DR. LAXMINARAYAN PANDEYA: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether any study has been carried out for assessing Scientific and Technical manpower utilisation in basic research, engineering and technology; and

(b) if so, the salient recommendations made to improve the skilled manpower utilisation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) and (b). No, Sir. No such study has been carried out. However, a survey of degree holders and technical personnel has been conducted in 1981 along with Population Census. The Government have, from time to time taken measures to increase utilisation of scientific and technical manpower. Some of these measures are:-

- i) Increase in outlay for science and technology sector in successive Five Year Plans;

- ii) Creation of new scientific departments/organisations;
- iii) Setting up of more centres of excellence/advanced studies in universities and academic institutions;
- iv) Creation of core groups of professionals with necessary modern facilities required for pursuing reserved in new and frontier areas of science;
- v) Delegation of enhanced administrative and financial powers to scientific institutions to improve working conditions of scientists.

Duplication of R & D Projects

*686. SHRI SANTOSH KUMAR GANGWAR: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Government have conducted any study to assess the duplication in R & D projects being supported by various technical departments;

(b) if so, the details thereof; and

(c) the mechanism involved/proposed to ensure that there is no duplication of R & D Projects ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF PERSONNEL, PUBLIC GRIEVANCES AND PENSIONS (SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA): (a) to (c). The Government has made an analysis to assess duplication of R & D Projects being supported by various technical departments, in order to evolve an Integrated approach to promoting R & D activities.

A number of Science and Technology departments have extramural R & D funding programmes to promote specific R & D projects according to their allocation of business these R & D Projects are processed in consultation with the other concerned technical departments wherever necessary, avoid duplication of efforts. In many cases, projects are transferred to the concerned technical departments. More recently, the Department of Science and Technology has established a mechanism called "Inter Agency Committee on Management of R & D Funding" which meets frequently to discuss the common concerns relating to R & D Projects etc. of all the technical departments, with the overall objective of evolving an integrated approach to promoting R & D activities.

In addition, as a part of the National Management Information System Programme, a complete data base of extramural R & D projects supported by all the technical departments is maintained to avoid duplication of efforts.

[*Translation*]

Demand for Maruti Cars

*687. SHRI RAJNATH SONKAR SHASTRI: Will the PRIME MINISTER be pleased to state:

(a) the number of Maruti cars of various models manufactured during each of the last three years;

(b) whether the demand for Maruti vehicles in India has increased and these vehicles have also become quite popular in African countries; and

(c) if so, the details of the annual demand of these cars in foreign countries and in India ?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF INDUSTRY (SHRI P.K. THUNGON): (a) Details of Maruti vehicles produced during the last three years are given below:-